

**MINUTES  
STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**Double Tree Hotel  
5351 Sidney Simmons Boulevard  
Columbus, Georgia 31904**

**October 15, 2009**

**9:00 a.m.**

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Bill Kuhlke, Jr., Chairman  
Rudy Bowen, Vice Chairman  
Roy Herrington  
Robert L. Brown, Jr.  
Johnny Floyd  
Sam Wellborn  
Emory McClinton  
Brandon Beach  
Sidney Ross  
David Doss  
Bobby Parham

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Dana Lemon

**DOT STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Commissioner Vance Smith  
Gerald Ross, Deputy Commissioner/Chief Engineer  
Elizabeth Osmon  
Kate Pfirman  
Sandra Burgess  
Earl Mahfuz

Chairman Bill Kuhlke opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Roy Herrington gave the invocation.

Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 2009 meetings. Robert Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 2009 meetings, seconded by Roy Herrington and unanimously approved.\*

Bryant Poole, Acting Director of Operations, gave a presentation on the September 2009 Flood Events, which included the requirements for the Emergency Relief Program (ER) sponsored by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to be eligible for ER funding and damages from the flood in each district.

Gerald Ross, Deputy Commissioner/Chief Engineer, presented the projects proposed for the November 2009 Letting for approval. Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to approve. Robert Brown made a motion to approve the projects proposed for the November 2009 Letting, seconded by Roy Herrington and unanimously approved.\* Gerald Ross also asked the Board approve the emergency lettings and give authorization to Commissioner to approve emergency lettings without Board approval due to time limit on the emergency funds. Roy Herrington made a motion to give the Commissioner authorization to approve emergency lettings from the flood damage without notifying the Board, seconded by Emory McClinton and unanimously approved.

Todd Long, Director of Planning, presented the proposed revisions to the Construction Work Program for October 2009 for approval. Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to approve the proposed revisions to Construction Work Program for October 2009. Roy Herrington made a motion to approve the proposed revisions to the Construction Work Program for October 2009, seconded by Rudy Bowen and unanimously approved.

Todd Long also presented the proposed revisions to the Construction Work Program for November 2009.\*

Sam Wellborn made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Rudy Bowen and unanimously approved.

### **Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, John Flournoy and his family are preeminent citizens of Columbus and Muscogee County; and

**WHEREAS**, John Flournoy is a graduate of the University of North Carolina, earning a Bachelor of Science in business in 1962; and

**WHEREAS**, John Flournoy is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, serving honorably as a fighter pilot with five years active duty including service in Southeast Asia, and then four years service with a Marine Reserve fighter squadron headquartered at the Naval Air Station, Atlanta; and

**WHEREAS**, John Flournoy established Flournoy Development Company in 1967, one of the largest private developers of high quality apartment residences in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, John Flournoy serves as Chairman and CEO of Flournoy Development, Flournoy Construction and Flournoy Properties, highly successful businesses operating throughout the Southeast; and

**WHEREAS**, John Flournoy has contributed significantly to the community's business affairs, serving as a Board Member of Columbus Bank and Trust Company and the W.C. Bradley Company; and

**WHEREAS**, John Flournoy has been an especially positive influence on the civic life of the community, serving as a past president of the United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley and serving on the Boys and Girls Club Board for more than 35 years; and

**WHEREAS**, John Flournoy has been a champion of civic pride, chairing the Columbus Gateways Committee since 1991; and

**WHEREAS**, John Flournoy has worked diligently with partners including the Georgia Department of Transportation to develop the highest quality landscaping and welcoming corridors for the residents and visitors to the Chattahoochee Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, the Columbus Gateways Foundation under Mr. Flournoy's leadership is the driving force behind the many landscaping enhancements in the community, including Interstate 185 at J.R. Allen Parkway and at more than a dozen intersections along I-185 and along J.R. Allen Parkway; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Flournoy has taken a leading role in establishing a premiere gateway into Fort Benning at I-185 and Victory Drive, providing the Home of the Infantry and Columbus' pride and joy with a suitable entranceway befitting its stature in the community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the State Transportation Board recognizes the accomplishments and selfless leadership of John F. Flournoy and each member of the Board hereby demonstrates appreciation for his dedication in making his community, our State of Georgia and our nation a better place for all.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a suitable copy be presented to John F. Flournoy in recognition of his exemplary leadership and commitment.

**ADOPTED, this the 15th day of October, 2009.**

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Sam Wellborn made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Rudy Bowen and unanimously approved.

### **Resolution**

**Whereas**, J. Kyle Spencer is a lifelong resident of Columbus, Georgia and his family roots go back over 150 years in the community and the history of that family is marked by significant contributions to the business and civic life of Columbus and our state; and

**Whereas**, J. Kyle Spencer was educated in the public schools of Columbus, Georgia, graduating from Columbus High School in 1943, from Episcopal High School in 1944 and Princeton University in 1949; and

**Whereas**, J. Kyle Spencer served with distinction as an officer in the United States Navy during World War II; and

**Whereas,** J. Kyle Spencer played an active and productive role in the business community measurably contributing to the success and prosperity of Columbus, Georgia as a Partner in the Investment Banking firm of Zimmerman, Spencer and Pound, as the Founder of the Trust Company of Columbus Bank and in many other business endeavors and associations; and

**Whereas,** J. Kyle Spencer was for many years an active member of the First Presbyterian Church, being a Deacon, teaching a Sunday School class and serving on a number of church committees and participating in other ministries; and

**Whereas,** J. Kyle Spencer has been a longtime and generous supporter of Columbus State University, founding and funding the CSU Oxford Scholars Program and subsequently donating the Spencer House, a residence in Oxford that houses professors and students participating in the program, serving in a leadership capacity during CSU's Capital Campaign and contributing to the success of Columbus State University in many other significant ways; and

**Whereas,** J. Kyle Spencer has been actively involved in serving his community in service organizations such as the Historic Columbus Foundation, of which he served as President and on the Board; and

**Whereas,** J. Kyle Spencer, along with Milton Jones, was the instigator, organizer and principal financial supporter in the founding of Trees Columbus, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection, preservation and planting of trees in Columbus, Georgia; and

**Whereas,** in only eight years Trees Columbus has grown to a network of 2,200 members and supporters, and has played a significant and substantial role in protecting the urban forest in Columbus, Georgia, preventing the cutting of over 100 mature trees in Columbus' landmark Lakebottom Park, planting more than 3,500 trees citywide, securing passage of a meaningful Tree Ordinance, conducting educational programs, producing and placing public service announcements that reach more than 70,000 households each year; and

**Whereas,** under the visionary leadership of J. Kyle Spencer, Trees Columbus has undertaken the project to transform the streetscape of one of Columbus' most significant thoroughfares, Veterans Parkway, converting it into a true parkway and, in carrying out that mission, has contributed and raised almost \$500,000 in matching funds to make the project a reality.

**Now, therefore,** the State Transportation Board does hereby recognize and honor J. Kyle Spencer for his numerous contributions to the betterment of his community, Columbus, Georgia, and especially for his indispensable leadership and support in making the Veterans Parkway Streetscape a reality.

**Be it further resolved** that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a suitable copy be presented to J. Kyle Spencer in recognition of his exemplary leadership and commitment.

**ADOPTED, this the 15th day of October, 2009.**

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Representative Calvin Smyre presented a House resolution to Tom Buck commending him for his public service and dedicating the portion of State Route 22 Spur from US 27 (Veterans Parkway) to Brown Avenue in Muscogee County, Georgia as the Tom Buck Parkway.

Representative Carolyn Hugley presented a House resolution to George Ford's family designating the interchange at Interstate Highway 85 and St. Mary's Road in Muscogee County as the "George W. Ford, Jr. Interchange.

Mike Gaymon, President/CEO, Columbus Chamber, gave a presentation on the city of Columbus, which included current projects.\*

Sandra Burgess, General Counsel, gave a legal update, which included civil actions, mediations and ante-litem notices.

Commissioner Vance Smith gave his monthly report, which included state fund collections; total employment figure ending September 30, 2009; major projects open to traffic; ARRA 2009 stimulus activities and recognized five employees for receiving the Governor's Customer Service Award category of "Outstanding Process Improvement". Commissioner Smith also presented the new organizational changes for the Department. Commissioner Smith stated that GDOT staff is working on the Georgia LOGO Program and will present recommendations to the Administrative Committee at the next meeting.

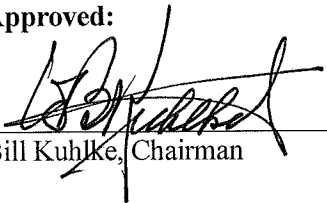
Rudy Bowen gave a report from the Finance Committee. Rudy Bowen stated that Kate Pfirman, Treasurer, gave an update on the FY 2010 Budget; presented the capital program for FY 2010 and gave an update on the FY 2008 external audit.

Emory McClinton gave a report from Transportation Agency Partners Committee. Emory McClinton stated that he recommended a state funding amendment to the current SPLOST legislation to fund transit projects. Emory McClinton also stated that Jane Hayse, Atlanta Regional Commission, gave a presentation on unified agenda for the Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization, including input from GDOT, MARTA and GRTA and Dan Gentry, Federal Policy Staff, gave an update on the SAFETEA-LU Reauthorization. There was some discussion regarding the donor state/minimum rate and it was recommended to request an increase on the minimum rate return to 94%. Emory McClinton also stated he requested partners submit suggestions for funding to present to the legislature and suggestions for the federal reauthorization bill by the end of the month.

Sandra Burges, General Counsel, requested that the Board approve the adjustment to the Commissioner's annual salary, including car allowance of \$182,000, and making the adjustment retroactive from July 2009. Sam Wellborn made a motion to approve the Commissioner's salary of \$182,000, including car allowance and retroactive from July 2009, seconded by Robert Brown and unanimously approved.

There being no further business, Chairman Kuhlke asked for a motion to adjourn. Johnny Floyd made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Roy Herrington and unanimously approved.

**Approved:**

  
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Bill Kuhlke, Chairman

**Respectfully submitted:**

  
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Elizabeth Osmon, Board Secretary

**\*Denotes documentation in file.**